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The rule of law at the national and international levels

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Identical letters dated 11 June 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government and pursuant to my previous letters, including the letter circulated as document A/61/571-S/2006/884, regarding the insolent threats made against the Islamic Republic of Iran by the Israeli regime, I wish to inform you that, emboldened by the absence of any action by the Security Council, various Israeli officials have unabatedly continued to publicly and contemptuously make unlawful and dangerous threats of resorting to force against the Islamic Republic of Iran in total defiance of international law and the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations. In this regard, and in yet another blatant violation of the basic provisions of the United Nations Charter, particularly the provisions which call for refraining "from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations", on Saturday, 9 June 2007, Shaul Mofaz, the Israeli Deputy Prime Minister, threatened to use military action against Iran and yet again put on display the criminal, aggressive and terrorist nature of the said regime by saying that it is "a very, very clear signal and a clear statement that all options are on the table ... I never said there is no military option, and the military option is included in all the options that are on the table ...".

Prior to this, the Israeli Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert, in response to a question in April 2007 regarding whether military action would be an option against Iran said: "nobody is ruling it out ... It is impossible perhaps to destroy the entire nuclear programme but it would be possible to damage it in such a way that it would be set back years ... it would take 10 days and would involve the firing of 1,000 Tomahawk cruise missiles".

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These malicious threats, together with previous ones, including those mentioned in document A/61/571-S/2006/884, constitute matters of extreme gravity that require urgent and resolute response on the part of the United Nations and particularly the Secretary-General and the Security Council.

These unacceptable, unlawful and dangerous statements are being made by the Israeli regime's officials in full impunity while the Security Council and the officials of the United Nations Secretariat are silent and some of the Council's permanent members, by pushing for statements against Iran based on various distortions and unsubstantiated allegations, have joined the Israeli regime in a failed attempt and tired smokescreen to distract the international community's attention from the real and serious threats that the said regime poses to international and regional peace and security and to deflect the attention of the United Nations from the daily barrage of illegal Israeli threats to resort to force, as well as its shocking record of resorting to force, terrorism, aggression and occupation against various members of the United Nations.

Indeed, the inaction of the Security Council in dealing with such criminal Israeli policies and practices and the impunity with which this regime has been allowed to carry out its crimes so far have emboldened it to persist in its flagrant defiance of the most basic and fundamental principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations and to resort to force, aggression and state terrorism as a matter of routine policy.

The Security Council should react to these threats by unequivocally condemning them and demanding that the said regime abandon its policy of flouting international law and the Charter of the United Nations and cease and desist immediately from the threat of use force against Members of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 80 and 100, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. Javad **Zarif**